

Place at the Table DVD

Before the documentary: The students, who were part of A Place At the Table, stated clearly that they found strength from their ancestors to live their own dreams.

One of the last ideas the students shared was a 'radical idea'; *one country made from every kind of peoples all over the world*. They decided it was not only a "radical idea", but "a beautiful one; a difficult one". They all agreed with Carol, "I think we are the ones who can make a difference, with the knowledge of what our parents and our grandparents have gone through... We are the turning point". (Carol)

Why are YOU the "turning point"?

During the documentary: Immigration Research Project: themes/quotes from the DVD to think about -

- a. If you don't know your history, you don't know yourself. (Samuel)

- b. Telling our stories is the best way we have to keep our dreams alive. (Deloria)

- c. A lot of people come to America thinking it's going to be so easy, but it ends up being not so easy. (David)

- d. Even though these stories are so different, a lot of times it's really the same story. (Peter)

- e. You don't have to like me. You don't like me? That's your business. But I deserve respect. (Wislene)

- f. We're not born prejudiced. It comes from our homes and families, how we're brought up. (Reina)

- g. We live in a country where it is still OK to hate people, to beat up people. Why? (Terry)

- h. I think we are the ones who can make a difference, with the knowledge of what our parents and our grandparents have gone through... We are the turning point. (Carol)

After the documentary:

Definition: documentary - noun (pl. -ries)

A written documentary is research consisting of official pieces of written, printed, or visual sources : *his book is based on documentary sources.*

A visual documentary is research consisting of official pieces of written, printed, or visual sources (of a movie, a television or radio program, or photography) using pictures or interviews with people involved in real events to provide a factual record or report : *he has directed documentary shorts and feature films.*

Why are YOU the "turning point"?

Someone in your past made 'a place for you in this world'; set 'a place at the table' for you. What does this mean to you? Remember 'audience'? Who is your 'audience' if you were to write a letter to that person? Can you document something about the person from a letter, or a picture, or an interview with someone who knew that person?

Journal entry:

Annotated Bibliography

Definition: annotate

verb [trans.]

add notes to (a text or diagram) giving explanation or comment : *documentation should be annotated with explanatory notes* | [as adj.] (annotated) *an annotated bibliography*.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.:

from Latin *annotat-* 'marked,' from the verb *annotare*, from *ad-* 'to' + *nota* 'a mark.'

Definition: bibliography (abbr.: bibliog.)

noun (pl. -phies)

a list of the books referred to in a scholarly work, usually printed as an appendix.

- a list of the books of a specific author or publisher, or on a specific subject : *a bibliography of his publications*.
- the history or systematic description of books, their authorship, printing, publication, editions, etc. : *he regarded bibliography as a science*.
- any book containing such information.

ORIGIN early 19th cent.:

from French *bibliographie* or

modern Latin *bibliographia*, from Greek *biblion* 'book' + *-graphia* 'writing.'

Examples: "Annotated Bibliography":

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Berkley, California: University of California Press. 1982. Print

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is a coming of age fictional novel written in 1876 by Samuel Clemens. Samuel Clemens took the pseudonym Mark Twain, which means 'two fathoms deep'. He chose a pseudonym that was part of the Mississippi River culture; the culture he described in his two most famous novels, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Both of these novels are classics in American Literature. Samuel Clemens was a 'prodigious noticer' and because of this, his writings are excellent examples for students learning to write; learning to be attentive to the details of everyday life in their own writings. While *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* describes life in the United States immediately after the Civil War, it also describes the courage of people adjusting to changes, something every immigrant must do.

Southern Poverty Law Center. *A Place At the Table*. Montgomery, Alabama: Teaching Tolerance. 1991. Media

Randy Foster and Amy Mapp from the Booker T. Washington Magnet High School in Montgomery, Alabama decided to work with a number of students to produce educational materials. These materials were designed to teach others about various cultural backgrounds found within the borders of the United States of America. High school students spoke their minds not only about their histories, but also in Deloria's word, "Telling our stories is the best way to keep our dreams alive." These young adults bravely maneuvered through delicate subjects and did so with tact, integrity, and clarity. Keeping dreams alive was not enough for these young people, they believed it was up to all of us to make a difference. In Carol's word, "I think we are the ones who can make a difference, with the knowledge of what our parents and our grandparents have gone through. ... We are the turning point."